

MAGI # 0438271511

Form
(Jan 78)Form Approved
OMB No. 42 R 101UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
Washington, D.C. 20240

HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION

APPLICATION — PART 1

(Pursuant to the Tax Reform Act of 1976)

Instructions: Applicant should read the instructions carefully before completing application. No Certification may be made unless a completed application form has been received (P.L. 94-455). Use typewriter or print clearly in dark ink to complete the application form. If additional space is needed to complete Part 1, use the reverse side or a separate plain sheet of paper clearly indicating the owner's name and mailing address. Part 1 of this application may be completed and sent to the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer at any time during the year, and may be sent separately or with Part 2.

PART 1 EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

1. NAME OF PROPERTY:

Address of property: Street 739 West Pratt StreetCity Baltimore County _____ State Maryland Zip Code 21201Name of historic district in which property is located Ridgely's Delight Historic District: National Register of Historic Places, 6/6/80; Baltimore City Historic District2. DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE: October 19, 1979.

(see instructions for map and photograph requirements—use reverse side if necessary)

739 West Pratt Street is a commercial structure built in the 3rd quarter of the 19th century. The brick, three story building is nearly triangular in plan, to conform to the site, and is five bays wide and eleven bays deep with a steeply pitched roof. The facade the north elevation on Pratt Street, is stretcher bond. The west elevation on Fremont

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

(use reverse side if necessary)

739 West Pratt Street is a prominent structure in the Ridgely's Delight Historic District because of its highly visible location, its distinctive profile, and its fine quality as an example of mid to late 19th century commercial architecture.

Date of construction (if known): 1850-1870 ☒ Original site ☐ Moved Date of alterations (if known): mid 20th c. interior alt.

4. NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF OWNER:

Name Ridgely's Delight Associates, c/o William Struever, Struever Brothers and EcclesStreet 519 North Charles StreetCity Baltimore, State Maryland Zip Code 21202Telephone Number (during day) Area Code (301) 332-1352

I hereby attest that the information I have provided is to the best of my knowledge correct and that I am owner of the property described above

Signature [Signature] Date 12/18/81Form prepared by Barbara A. Hoff, Dalsemer, Catzen and Associates, Inc., 14 Light Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202, (301) 837-3691

For office use only

The structure described above is included within the boundaries of the National Register historic district and ☒ contributes ☐ does not contribute to the character of the districtThe structure ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6) and ☐ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with the Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60).The structure is located in a district which ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6) ☐ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60), and ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to contribute to the character of said district.Signature [Signature]
State Historic Preservation OfficerDate 1-7-82

This property has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Department of the Interior (36 CFR 67) and, if subject to depreciation under section 167 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954,

☐ is hereby certified a historic structure☐ does not contribute to the character of the historic district and does not merit certification as a historic structure. Reasons given on the attached sheetSignature _____
Keeper of the National Register

Date _____

IF NEEDED USE THIS SIDE TO COMPLETE ANSWERS TO PART 1

DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE: cont.

Street, is common bond. The window openings on both elevations are rectangular with wood sills and lintels. The wood cornice comprises brackets and dentils and extends along both elevations. The entrances are on Pratt Street and Fremont Street comprise wood framing for the doors, side lights, and a transoms and there is a large wood lintel above the transoms. The interior of the structure was badly deteriorated because of abandonment and exposure to the weather.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: cont.

The Ridgely's Delight Historic District is a small wedge-shaped area located southwest of Baltimore's Central Business District. This neighborhood is all that remains of a much larger area that developed from the late 18th century through the early 20th century. The majority of the buildings in the neighborhood were built in the 1840's and 50's as a result of the establishment of the University of Maryland Hospital in 1812 and the growth of heavy industries including the B & O Railroads yards, the Winans Locomotive and Car Works, and the Hayward, Bartlett and Company, manufacturers of iron for the railroads and buildings. Smaller industries developed within the neighborhood including a box factory, an iron foundry, a paint and oil factory, a furniture manufacturer, and a silver beating manufactory.

The neighborhood developed to house the workers at the adjacent factories and the professionals at the University Medical Facilities. The architecture of the historic district reflects this social and economic mix of people. The residential structures range in style from the late Federal houses which were two or two and a half story rowhouses to the more substantial Italianate structures which were three stories and had heavy cornices and elongated window proportions. The district contains many storefront buildings, several of which were late 19th century additions to early 19th century houses; several mid-to-late-19th century industrial buildings; and earlier 19th century houses which are set back from the street. The historic district retains its 19th century character because of the low scale of both the residential and commercial buildings and the intimate vistas created by the many streets and alleys which are at angles to each other, therefore closing off expansive views. The residential and commercial buildings exist in harmony because the industrial structures repeat the fenestration patterns and the use of brick as a building material, which are similar to the residential structures.

Ridgely's Delight began to decline around the 1940's, climaxing in the 1960's with a large percentage of abandonment of the housing stock. The highway programs of the 1950's and 60's were partially responsible for this decline. The resurgence of the neighborhood began in the 1970's by private investors, who were followed by the City's Urban Renewal Program and Homesteading Project for the area. From the outset, the new residents to the neighborhood were concerned about retaining the indigenous population. This priority of the Urban Renewal until Program has resulted in an economically and socially mixed community.

One of the projects which helped focus attention on the redevelopment of the neighborhood was the broad based effort to restore the Babe Ruth House, which is now an historic house museum and a Baltimore City Landmark. The 19th century charm of Ridgely's Delight is a striking contrast to the new Inner Harbor Developments a short distance away.

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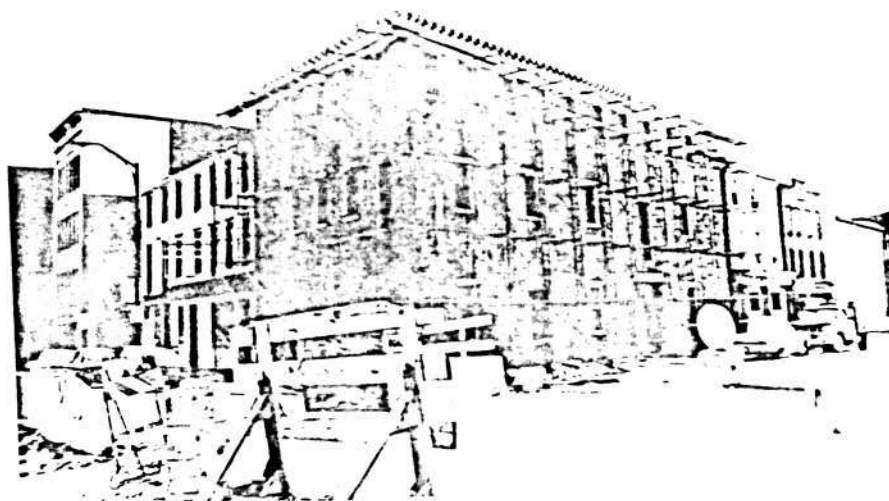
IF NEEDED USE THIS SIDE TO COMPLETE ANSWERS TO PART 1

The property was first associated with Abiathar Field, an oyster merchant. The property was leased to John J. Braun, of Brauns and Schultz, commercial merchants, until 1882 when he purchased the property. That same year, Braun established the John J. Braun and Son Company, feed and flower merchants which was in operation until 1904. That year the property was sold to McClellan Hardware Company, which stayed in operation until 1920. The property was then purchased by the Henry S. Wampole Company, a chemical manufacturing firm, which held title to the property until the 1930's.

The building deteriorated along with the general decline and abandonment of the neighborhood. The structure is now undergoing rehabilitation for adaptive reuse as part of a larger low income housing project for the neighborhood. The rehabilitation plans retain the original exterior commercial character of the building and restore the decorative architectural details.

3

739 W. 72ND ST. EAST CO. RD



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B-3827
739 W. Pratt Street
Block 0674 Lot CO0674
Baltimore City
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